So, I do share the feeling of the hon. Member and that is because of the Governmen initiative and the policy to develop this industry. The Government knows it very well that this is also a second-line of defence.

As far as default by private companies is concerned, at the moment, it is Rs. 223.90 crores on the private companies.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: And what is the equity capital?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Sir, "Man of the Question Hour" award should be given to Mr. Narasimha Rao because except for the last three minutes, he dominated the Question Hour. This is perhaps a record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. The compliment is passed on to the Minister for Human Resource Development.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I humbly pass it on to the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE- REPLY BY FINANCE MINISTER

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Finance Minister will reply to the debate on the economic situation at 3 p.m. today. He has to take up the discussion in the other House at four. Therefore he will reply at 3 o'clock. Now statement by Minister correcting answer to question.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BPT proposals for capital expenditure

422. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of proposals involving capital expenditure submitted by Bombay Port Trust which are pending clearance with Government for more than a year; and

(b) by when Government propose to clear these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No such proposals are pending

(b) Does not arise.

Madras Rapid Transport System

*423. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of Madras Rapid Transport System, by when it is expected to be completed and at what cost;

(b) what are the other cities in which such transport system is proposed to be introduced; and

(c) what are the criteria adopted for the selection of cities for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Madras Beach-Luz Transit System envisages provision of 8.45 kms. long double track electrified B. G. line at an anticipated cost of about Rs. 107 crores at present price level.

Date of completion of the Project would depend upon availability of funds in the coming years.

(b) Except for ongoing projects in Calcutta and Bombay, there is at present no approved proposal for such schemes.

(c) Responsibility for development of rapid transit system for cities should largely devolve on different local agencies including State Government, such projects being mainly meant for socio-economic activity of the city. Initiative in this matter, therefore, rests with the city agencies/ State Governments.